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PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 47232-5011-00-US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Takashi HORIUCHI et al. ) Confirmation No.: Unassigned  
Application No.: NEW )  
(National stage of PCT ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Application No. PCT/JP2004/016833 ) Examiner: Unassigned  
filed November 12, 2004 )  
Filed: May 24, 2006 )  
For: A METHOD FOR GENE AMPLIFICATION )

Commissioner for Patents  
**MAIL STOP PCT**

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.